

STATE SENATOR • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

Schauer Press Release



P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-2426 • Fax: 517-373-2964
E-mail: senmschauer@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD19

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Contact: Sen. Mark Schauer
(517) 373-2426

SEN. SCHAUER ANNOUNCES CALHOUN ISD MICHIGAN WORKS! AGENCY TO RECEIVE MORE THAN \$127,000 FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING GRANTS

LANSING – State Sen. Mark Schauer (D-Calhoun, Jackson counties) announces that the Calhoun Intermediate School District Michigan Works! Agency and service centers will receive more than \$127,000 in funding to help adults in Barry, Branch and Calhoun counties find employment in order to retain their food stamp eligibility. The funding is designated for adults ages 18-50 who are able to work and do not have dependents.

“Many of our unemployed have been without work for so long that they’ve exhausted their savings and are struggling to make ends meet in addition to spending hours every day looking for steady employment,” Schauer said. “This funding will help people alleviate the double hardship of finding a decent meal while looking for a decent job.”

In the past, able bodied, single citizens lost their food stamp support when they were unemployed for an extended period of time. The grant award expands the job seeker’s options so that program participants may count job seeking activities and job training as legitimate ways to maintain food stamp assistance, while at the same time participating in meaningful job search and work readiness activities. The Calhoun ISD plans to serve at least 90 Calhoun County residents, who are referred to the program by the local Family Independence Agency.

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Across the state, the Michigan Dept. of Career Development's Food Assistance Employment and Training Program is operated by 25 locally governed Michigan Works! Agencies and Workforce Development Boards.

For more information about the Michigan Dept. of Career Development, visit its web site at: www.michigan.gov/mdcd.

For more information about the Michigan Works! service centers, visit the Michigan Works! Association web site at www.michiganworks.org, or call 1-800-285-WORKS.

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Schauer is the Senate Democratic Floor Leader. He represents the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Calhoun County and most of Jackson County.